

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7937

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 675

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, XH

SUBJECT: WARSAW PACT PCC MEETING

REF: A) STATE 085033; B) WARSAW 2242

1. BULGARIAN COMMUNIST PARTY HELD PLENUM APRIL 25 TO APPROVE RESULTS OF WARSAW PACT PCC MEETING. ACCORDING TO PLENUM DECISION MAIN REPORT GIVEN BY BCP SECRETARY KONSTANTIN TELLALOV. PLENUM APPRAISED RESULTS OF MEETING AS "NEW CONTRIBUTION TO STRENGTHENING OF PACT AND FOR EVEN CLOSER COORDINATION OF MEMBERS STATES' ACTIONS IN INTERNATIONAL ARENA".

2. MAIN THRUST OF PLENUM DECISION IS EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT FOR GROWING ATMOSPHERE OF DETENTE AND COOPERATION AMONG EUROPEAN STATES "BASED ON PRINCIPLES OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE". PLENUM CALLED FOR SPEEDING UP OF CSCE "OVER OPPOSITION OF THOSE FORCES WHO SEEK TO CREATE ALL
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POSSIBLE DIFFICULTIES AT GENEVA".

3. USSR, AND SPECIFICALLY BREZHNEV, SINGLED OUT FOR CONTRIBUTION TO PEACE AND SECURITY THROUGHOUT THE WORLD AND PLENUM "UNANIMOUSLY EXPRESSED SUPPORT" FOR WARSAW DECLARATIONS ON MIDEAST, CHILE AND VIETNAM.

4. IN CONCLUSION BCP CALLED ON ALL STATE AND PARTY ORGANIZATIONS TO TAKE NECESSARY MEASURES "TO OBSERVE WITH DIGNITY 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF PACT".

5. COMMENT: IT IS SOMEWHAT UNUSUAL THAT TELLALOV, BCP SECRETARY IN CHARGE FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AND NOT ZHIVKOV, GAVE REPORT TO PLENUM. IT MAY BE THAT ZHIVKOV CONSIDERED IT IMPROPER TO SUBMIT HIS ACTIONS FOR APPROVAL TO CENTRAL COMMITTEE, ALTHOUGH IT HAS BEEN NORMAL PRACTICE FOR HIM TO DO SO BEFORE POLITBURO. PLENUM DECISION CONTAINS NOTHING NEW AND IS IN LINE WITH PRESS COMMENTARY ON MEETING WHICH HAS EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE PCC ATTACHED TO RELAXATION OF TENSION IN EUROPE.

6. AS FOR POLISH SOURCE'S COMMENT DESCRIBED REFTEL (B), WE FIND THIS MOST UNUSUAL STORY IN VIEW OF BULGARIA'S WELL-KNOWN ADVOCACY FOR CLOSER INTEGRATION AND SPECIALIZATION WITHIN CEMA. FURTHERMORE, REMARKS MADE DURING BREZHNEV VISIT TO SOFIA IN SEPTEMBER 1973 INCLUDED SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO NEED FOR FURTHER INTEGRATION IN MILITARY SPHERE. PLENUM DECISION ALSO REITERATES NEED FOR CLOSER COORDINATION OF MEMBER STATES. ALTHOUGH ROMANIAN AND POLISH DIPLOMATS HERE CLAIM NOT TO HAVE BEEN BRIEFED YET ON RESULTS OF PCC MEETING, THEY GAVE NO HINT THAT BULGARIA HAD ALTERED ITS POSITION IN FAVOR OF CLOSER CEMA INTEGRATION. WHEN ROMANIA WAS ASKED WHETHER HE THOUGH BULGARIA WOULD SUPPORT ANY DIVERGENT ROMANIAN VIEWS WITHIN PACT HE SAID HE WOULD FIND THIS POSSIBILITY "ALMOST INCONCEIVABLE".
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